



A veteran remembered

Private was part of special forces unit.

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SPOKE

A LEARNING NEWSROOM FOR JOURNALISM STUDENTS



Competing with the best

Conestoga students race at national event.
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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2008

CONESTOGA COLLEGE, KITCHENER, ONT.

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WHY SO SERIOUS CONESTOGA?



PHOTO BY JAMIE REANSBURY

Kevin Casui, a first-year broadcast television student, strikes a menacing pose as The Joker at the CSI Halloween Bash, Oct. 30. For story and more photos, see pages 6 and 7.

Thieves targeting college parking lots

Laptops, wallets and identification stolen

By KAITLYN HEARD

IPods, money and credit cards are just a few of the items thieves are making off with after breaking into vehicles in the college's parking lots.

John Anderson, security representative at Conestoga College, said there have been 15 reports concerning items stolen from cars and two counts of stolen vehicles since Oct. 1.

"It's a nightmare. There are lots of them," said Anderson.

Other items reported stolen include laptops, wallets, identification and book bags. But, fortunately for one student, his or her stolen vehicle turned up in Brantford, although the car stereo was missing.

Another student's car was taken from parking lot 10

and recovered later that night in Lot 9. The possible intention was to use it for further criminal activity, said Anderson.

With more students attending Conestoga, the security department has its hands full. "We've been busier this year and thus more incidents are being reported," said Anderson.

The security department is investigating whether there is a pattern to the break-ins. They are looking at things such as the time the crimes were committed, where the acts were committed and what was stolen from each vehicle. Although they aren't sure who is behind the acts, whether it's students or someone outside of the college, by keeping a close watch on the surveillance cameras they are hoping to catch any crimes committed

on campus.

Anderson has a few tips for worried students. "Do not leave valuables in your cars at all (and) report anything that seems suspicious."

Tara Krajewski, a second-year marketing student at Conestoga College, said, "I'm kind of worried but I don't really leave anything too valuable in my car anyways."

Anderson also said that even though you lock your things in the trunk, once the vehicle doors are opened the trunk release button can be used to access the trunk hassle-free.

Therefore, remember to take your personal belongings with you and lock your doors. If you witness any suspicious activity, report it to the security office located across from the Library Resource Centre or call 519-748-5220, ext. 3357.

Students expanding their borders

By LIZ KOENIG

While most students were sitting by the pool, hanging out with friends or working their butts off to pay for the next semester of school this summer, four BSCN students were having the experience of a lifetime.

Third-year student Chris Martin and fourth-year students Janelle Berg, Danielle Shantz and Elizabeth Brenneman chose to venture overseas to poverty-ridden countries to share their affinity for health and wellness with those in need.

Each of the students encountered many things that they said will make them better nurses with a better understanding of world health issues.

Martin had an important occurrence during her stay in the capitol of Cambodia, Phnom Penh.

"I was trying to inform a village leader about building teamwork and as I portrayed what I was trying to say, the village leaders took it that I was trying to make them as we are as Canadians. I knew that I had experienced cultural sensitivity and I apologized and tried to integrate myself into how they function," Martin said.

Berg had a significant experience while working in the maternity ward of the Bethesda Hospital in Cotonou, Benin.

A woman was admitted to give birth but required an emergency caesarean

section. Because the woman and her family couldn't pay for the procedure right away, the doctors felt burdened when requested to perform the surgery. The woman, who was from Nigeria, didn't speak the local language from Benin. While doctors and nurses shouted around her about the timing of the surgery and the payment to be made following, the woman became more frightened and confused.

"She didn't know why she was being prodded with needles. I held her hand and kept her talking through the whole procedure. She clasped my hand through the whole surgery searching for comfort. I was so glad that I could be there to play this role of reassurance. The rest of the health-care professionals weren't paying attention to the person on the table," Berg said.

It was a truly eye-opening experience for Berg and one that will stay with her forever.

"I felt like a nurse in this situation. I really hope I made a frightening experience a little more bearable for her," she said.

Brenneman and Shantz travelled together to Jamkhed, Maharashtra, India to immerse themselves in a different culture and work with people living in absolute poverty.

Durga, a two-year-old boy, was brought in to the students with a severe case of tuberculosis. He was weak and wouldn't move and the

responsibility of his care was left to Shantz and Brenneman. In India, the family is responsible for paying for the food and care so the students would go to the market and get food for the boy.

For them, watching and contributing to the health and well-being of Durga was both rewarding and encouraging.

"Working with Durga, getting to know his family and seeing the improvement in him was just incredible," Shantz said.

Cultural differences were a large obstacle to overcome for each of the students. Berg had been to Ghana previously so the shock of the differences was easier to overcome for her. The lack of sanitization and the different method of practising medicine were significant differences each of the students had to learn to cope with.

"The animals, the people, everybody drank out of the same cisterns and there was no barrier as far as separating the animals and people," Martin said.

The difference in bedside manner between Indian nurses and their patients took Shantz aback. She described it as being quite a bit more brash and aggressive.

"Kind, soft-spoken nursing here (in Canada) is encouraged. There, you're seen as weak," Brenneman said.

Though challenging at times, all four students learned valuable lessons in being flexible as nurses and working



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Elizabeth Brenneman with a newborn baby that she cared for in India.

with limited resources.

Though Berg would prefer to work in Canada, Martin, Shantz and Brenneman are excited about the future opportunities that await them overseas.

Now deep thoughts ... with Conestoga College

Random questions answered by random students

If there were to be a movie made about you, who would you want to star as you?



"Jennifer Aniston, because she's my favourite character on Friends."

Heather Shaw,
first-year
office administration

"J. Lo because I'm obsessed with her!"

Justine Mota,
first-year
office administration



"Brad Pitt, I just think he's awesome and I think I'm awesome."

Andrew Fagundes,
first-year, post grad
financial services

"Robert De Niro, he's straight business."

Michael Brunetta,
first-year post grad
financial services



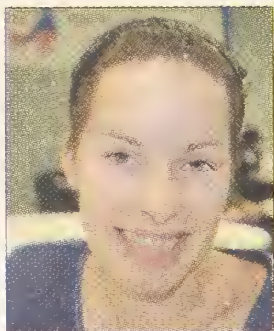
"Seth Rogen, because he is the closest one that resembles me."

Mitch Griffiths,
first-year
electrical engineering technology



"Eva Longoria, cause she's hot!"

Erin Clarke,
first-year
McMaster nursing program



Smile Conestoga, you could be our next respondent!

Poster sale popular

By MANDI CARTWRIGHT

A young woman with a whip between her teeth; two females passionately lip locking; the famous Johnny Cash giving the finger; a long list of household rules for the average college student; a cartoon imitation of AC/DC's leading guitarist, Angus Young, in his infamous school boy's outfit.

These are just a few of the posters that Imaginus displayed in Conestoga's Sanctuary on Oct. 27 and 28.

Posters ranged from \$3 to \$20 apiece, although \$8 to \$10 was the average cost, according to Darryl, an Imaginus representative, who did not want his last name published.

Women purchased about 80 per cent of the posters, according to Darryl, who admitted that it was difficult to bring in a broader selection for the male population.

"It's hard to decide on what sports to bring in," he said.

Posters such as the ones dedicated to the hit novel series, and upcoming movie, Twilight, were red-hot items, and the stars of old, such as Marilyn Monroe and Audrey Hepburn, made a grand comeback in terms of poster sale popularity.

This year the sale was moved from the dungeons of

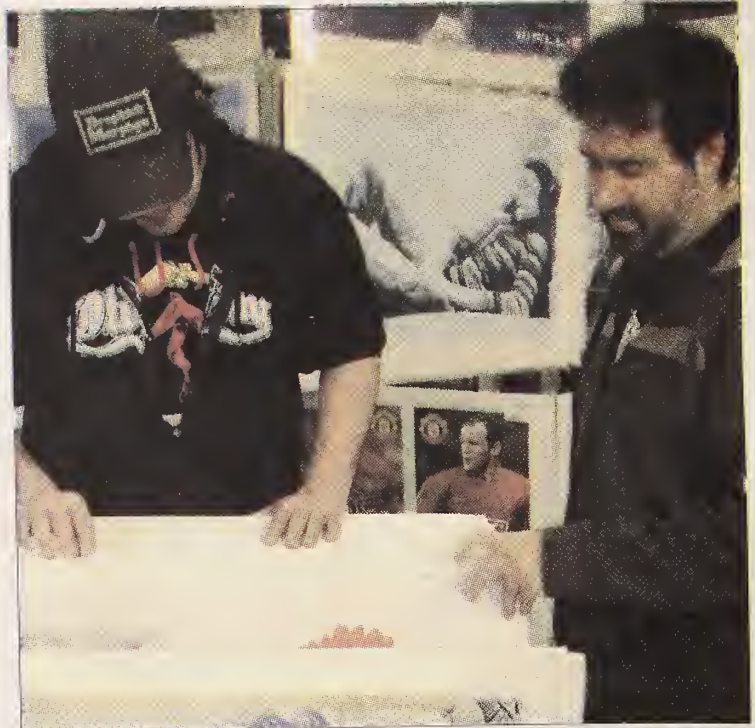


PHOTO BY MANDI CARTWRIGHT

Third-year computer engineering students, Tristan Singleton, left and Jon Hamel rummage through a variety of posters at a sale on Oct. 27 and 28 at the college.

Conestoga College to the new and brightly lit Sanctuary, confusing some students.

Imaginix has been displaying their posters at Conestoga for over 10 out of their 30 years in business, bringing in not only students but the public as well.

"It's open to everyone," said Darryl.

Imaginix works in collaboration with Conestoga Students Inc. to bring the poster sale to Conestoga twice a year. Their next appearance will be in either January or February.

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Dropping Out

"Do I really want to be here?" Many students, exhausted by workload, discouraged by borderline marks or unsure of program choice consider leaving college. Counsellors see many students who want out and hope to return later. But is "out there" any better? Quitting does not solve a financial shortfall or make the course work any easier the next time.

Leaving causes other problems. A sudden void is created in the student's life. Jobs are elusive. Contact is lost with school friends who form a natural community of support. Returning to school seems a monumental task.

This is not a "carry on at all costs" message. Rather, know the costs and consider all alternatives carefully. Consider options other than withdrawal from a program:

- ♦ Find out more about your program and the variety of possible jobs you can seek through resources such as faculty and Career Services.
- ♦ Drop a course which is salvageable and pick it up later. Consult your instructor before conceding defeat.
- ♦ Pick up a failed course through Continuing Education evening or summer classes.
- ♦ Discuss partial load with your co-ordinator or the program chair. Better to save a few than lose all.
- ♦ Apply for Peer Tutoring. The cost to the student is minimal and it works.
- ♦ Considering transferring to another program within your school.
- ♦ Communicate with a peer or faculty with whom you are having difficulty.
- ♦ Ask for help from faculty or classmates.
- ♦ Seek temporary shelter if home has become untenable. Community resources are listed in Counselling Services.
- ♦ See your doctor. A sudden decline in energy may indicate a treatable illness.
- ♦ Take off a day or two to deal with personal issues if necessary.
- ♦ Take advantage of any or all service areas to assist you.

These and many other solutions have been explored by students with a counsellor. We are here to listen and help when you have run out of ideas. Most find they can get through with some support or leave if necessary with a plan for completing their education.

A Message from Counselling Services, 1A101.

Veteran valued friendship over glory

By KEVIN O'BRIEN

The following article was written in tribute to my grandfather as part of Remembrance Day.

In August 1942, a joint American-Canadian commando unit of soldiers was assembled in Helena, Mont. and trained in parachuting, demolition, hand-to-hand combat and mountain warfare. Comprised of some of the most skilled soldiers both countries had to offer, upon recruitment, many of the men were told that there was a good chance they wouldn't come back from battle alive.

Dubbed the First Special Service Force (FSSF), they became notorious as one of the most successful Allied battalions of the Second World War. Feared by their enemies for their daring, stealthy use of hand-to-hand combat and admired by their allies for tackling the most challenging of missions, they became the stuff of legend.

In August 2003, the surviving members of the force gathered at the Holiday Inn in Burlington, Ont. for their annual reunion.

Gazing over the crowd, it was hard to believe that these men, all aged 70 or over, once comprised such a feared unit

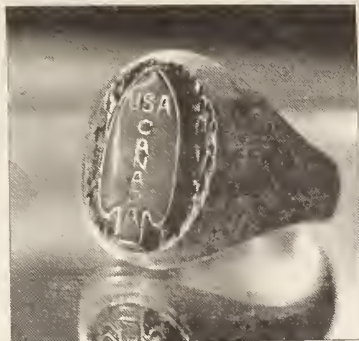


PHOTO BY KEVIN O'BRIEN

Thomas O'Brien's First Special Service Force ring, bearing the arrowhead insignia of the outfit.

of military power. It looked more like a high school reunion; kind old men slapping each other on the back and laughing loudly. Speeches were made and a catered dinner was served.

During the dinner, the president of the First Special Service Force Association rose from his seat. Dressed handsomely in his uniform, he pushed in his chair, turned to me and spoke.

"Hey, Kevy," he said. "Let's go for a cigarette."

He was my grandfather, Thomas Francis O'Brien.

Sixty years earlier, on the cold, rainy evening of Dec. 2, 1943, the day after his 30th birthday, smoking wasn't an option for Private Thomas O'Brien. He was stationed at the bottom of a mountain in Italy, preparing for what was described by many as a suicide mission.

He had to be stealthy – a lit cigarette could draw the attention of the enemy artillery stationed at the top of Monte La Difensa.

Above him was a previously unshakable line of German defence. The mountain had already claimed the lives of thousands of Allied soldiers, picked off by the Germans stationed perfectly on a ridge near the top of the hill.

The First Special Service Force had been told that if they could make it up the peak and defeat the enemy, Allied soldiers could liberate the German-occupied Rome within three weeks. They were instructed to use the special training they had received in mountain warfare to scale up from behind, taking the enemy soldiers by surprise.

The night of Dec. 3, after silently climbing the steep back of the mountain, the first shots were fired.

The battle that ensued was

won by the Allies, but at a high cost. By the end of the campaign, there were 1,400 casualties out of the 1,800-man unit.

"That was the first time I saw dead soldiers," my grandfather said in *Daring to Die*, a documentary about the FSSF produced by the History Channel. "Fellows that, the day before, you were having a drink with. You think, 'God, that could've been me.'"

It was so easy to forget that the kind, gentle, hilarious man that I always knew as "Papa" had seen such horrors.

"He would talk about it if you asked him," my father, also named Tom O'Brien, remembers. "He never had a problem discussing it, but usually wouldn't bring it up."

One afternoon, I mustered the courage to ask my grandfather about his experiences in the Second World War.

He took my mother and I into the back room of the old house in Rexdale he and my grandmother had lived in since my father was a toddler, opened the closet where his uniform still hung, and laid out old boxes and weathered photo albums on the couch.

He showed me Nazi propaganda fliers, designed to instil fear and doubt into the Allied soldiers. He produced a small, scrappy piece of metal – it was the coin that was in his pocket the day he was wounded by a shell. He gave me a copy of a photo of himself and other members of his regiment opening a parcel sent from home, and laughed as he remembered that the parcel in the picture wasn't actually addressed to him.

He spoke not of the dangerous missions he and his fellow soldiers embarked on, but of the camaraderie of the soldiers. He recalled with sadness, not anger, a trooper who lost his nerve and had to be



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Thomas O'Brien opens a package sent from home as other members of the First Special Service Force look on.

sent back from the front lines.

The day of my grandfather's funeral in 2004, an older man, dressed in the uniform of the First Special Service Force, took a bus alone from Niagara Falls to attend the service. He had never met my grandfather during the war, but at the reunion in Burlington a year earlier. My grandfather had seen the man sitting alone at a table and sat down with him to keep him company and trade stories.

In the book *The Black Devil Brigade: The True Story of the First Special Service Force*, my grandfather said that it

was hard to accept that the end of the war meant the end of a brigade he saw as a brotherhood.

"We had been fighting for so long under so much stress and strain I guess in some cases it was a relief, but we were all so close," he said.

For men like Thomas O'Brien, being a part of a unit like the First Special Service Force was a source of pride, not for the legendary status, but for the friendships they forged while entrenched in what they saw, perhaps, as a necessary evil.

To them, that is worth remembering.

'Kind, compassionate' friend won't be forgotten

By PATRICK LANSBERGEN

Beth Hughes, assistant to the manager of fees at Conestoga College, hoped she would not be forgotten. Her friends and colleagues at Conestoga College will see to it that her wish comes true.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Beth Hughes, fifth from left, smiles with fellow co-workers and friends. Hughes passed away Oct. 3 after a long illness.

After a long illness Hughes died on Oct. 3, 2008.

According to her co-workers, Hughes was a kind and compassionate person, more than willing to help staff and students. She was a hard worker with an easy laugh.

"She wanted to be remem-

bered. She will be, we carry her with us always," said Leanne Powell, a fellow staff member in the admissions office.

Hughes volunteered her time to assist with the convocation ceremonies, making sure all the students had their gowns and keeping things in order.

She also spent her time with the Twin Cities Minor Tackle Football Association. Her commitment to that organization was recognized with the creation of the Beth Hughes Memorial Fund. All monies donated on her behalf will be used to help kids who could otherwise not afford to play football.

In their spare time, Hughes and some of her co-workers would go out for a few drinks and a round of golf, letting off the steam from work and upsetting some local wildlife

with stray golf balls. Her honesty never wavered, regardless of the situation. Her friends even claim she still watches their score cards to keep them straight.

"There's no gimmies with Beth, she was always honest," said Heike Burnhardt.

Sherry Johnston and Hughes's other colleagues fondly remember and share laughs over her advice on golf techniques.

"She'd say 'Don't kill the ball,'" said Johnston.

She left behind her husband Russell and three children. Brent, who is a graduate of Conestoga College, Matthew and Jacqui, currently a student at Conestoga, and a grandson, Bryson.

A photograph of Hughes has been placed on the wall along with a print of *The Gift*, a

photo of clouds in the shape of an angel. The photo, taken by Darlene Lamb, was a favourite of Hughes'. Lamb's grandson, Adam, died at less than six months of age from sudden infant death syndrome. To help Lamb in her struggle with depression, a friend invited her to a lake as a place of refuge, hoping the peaceful setting would give her time for reflection.

While taking photographs at dusk, Darlene happened to look at the sky behind her and saw the amazing image of an angel in the clouds. She quickly took the photo. Lamb explained this effect by saying that it taught her not to give up on life.

This photo is believed by friends to be a true representation of Hughes' outlook on life, to never give up.

Cellphone law won't work

On Oct. 28, 2008 the Ontario government proposed a new law, in co-operation with the Ministry of Transportation, that will ban motorists from using cellular phones while behind the wheel. However, enforcing this will be easier said than done.

According to the Ontario government, using cellphones, BlackBerries, PDAs and texting while driving is dangerous. If motorists are caught by police officers, drivers could face fines of up to \$500.

Why the new bill? Are they afraid that drivers already have enough things to do in their vehicles, distracting them from the road? We have makeup to paint our faces with, CDs that need to be changed, fried chicken that needs to be eaten and other drivers to yell at. Thumbing away at our PDAs while we steer with our knees, just missing schoolchildren and forest wildlife should not be considered a crime — everything else we do while in the confines of our vehicles isn't.

As soon as the legislation is passed, police will start enforcing it.

Some would argue that the proposed ban is long overdue, that it will increase driver awareness and make our roads safer. Transportation Minister Jim Bradley sees it as a necessary inclusion, and that using these new technologies in our vehicles is simply dangerous.

Others, like Canada Safety Council spokesman Emile Therien, argue that most cellphone users will find ways around the ban, and it will simply give motorists a false sense of security, without delivering tangible safety benefits.

Argue as much as you want, it's a matter of common sense. We can't propose a new law that requires all drivers to be road smart — because there already is one. If drivers screw up, they are charged with careless driving.

Instead, how about making sure that drivers are responsible before giving them the ability to get behind the wheel? Even if it's after the acquisition of our G level licence, we're expected to have the same level of road safety we were taught in our driving classes, which in most cases is roughly three years prior. What's next? A T level licence, where you are allotted two text messages while behind the wheel of a motor vehicle, and any activity over and above will result in cellphone removal for one hour, and two hours of community service. Watch out for those new ride programs, if officers see that your cellphone activity has gone over its limit, it's reciting the alphabet backwards for you.

We're all guilty of using our phones while driving, but making it against the law won't result in anything other than animosity. Unless our phones are programmed to shut off when we put our keys in the ignition, people are going to continue to use them.

Letters are welcome

Spoke welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be signed and include the name and telephone number of the writer. Writers will be contacted for verification.

No unsigned letters will be published.

Letters should be no longer than 500 words.

Spoke reserves the right to edit any letter for publication.

Address correspondence to:

The Editor, Spoke, 299 Doon Valley Dr., Room 1C29, Kitchener, Ont., N2G 4M4



Politicians take aim at Canada's national sport.

Road hockey woes

Game on!

Youngsters in Cambridge have been granted the right to keep their portable road hockey nets on their front lawns, while young hockey enthusiasts in Kitchener and Waterloo can play but have to keep their nets in hiding after the game ends.

As new bans on playing road hockey in city boulevards are being made across the country, Cambridge made the right call in October, continuing to allow kids to play the Canadian pastime in their streets, and leave their nets beside the street.

Sure, in Kitchener and Waterloo it's a little more of a hassle as kids will have to drag their nets from the road, through the driveway and into the garage after every highly spirited road hockey bout, but it could be much worse.

“

It turns out yelling, “Car!” to alert the others causes a catastrophic noise level unsuitable to neighbours.

”

Since Halifax, N.S. took away the right of children to enjoy a simple game of road hockey on even low-traffic streets, the idea of a road hockey ban has popped up in



Blair Pollock
Opinion

other city and municipal council agendas.

Councils say road hockey promotes loitering on public property and noise complaints pile in because of the game. It turns out yelling, “Car!” to alert the others causes a catastrophic noise level unsuitable to neighbours.

Former stick-riding Maple Leafs tough guy Dave “Tiger” Williams leads the way in righting the road hockey ship. Williams has taken it upon himself to do everything he can to ensure that more municipalities refrain from banning road hockey. Williams, like other professional hockey players and those who grew up running up and down the concrete chasing the elusive orange ball, believes that banning the game is taking away a Canadian pastime.

Anyone who has called up their buddies in the neighbourhood for a game of road hockey as a child can easily remember the debates on whether the ball crossed the goal line, the laughter and the old-fashioned good, clean fun that comes out of a quick game to 10 before dinnertime.

These games between the sidewalks are primetime for kids to dream of scoring that game seven goal in overtime to win the Stanley Cup or streaking in from the blue line like their heroes do on television every Saturday night. Dreams like this should never be shattered.

“

There are thousands of other things kids could be doing that are a lot worse than putting a ball in a net on public property.

”

It's not as if kids are heading out to the highway to shoot balls at cars, delaying traffic by more than the two seconds it takes to pick up the net and move it 10 feet to the right or causing a nuisance to neighbours in the area. These are just young kids out for a good time. There are thousands of other things kids could be doing that are a lot worse than putting a ball in a net on public property.

Let's just hope that over time the issue of road hockey games doesn't resurface as grumpy neighbours raise hell again.

No one wants to hear, “Game Over!”

SPOKE

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Editor: Neil McDonald

Advertising Managers: Adam Russell, Sarah Bongers

Spoke Online Editor: Patrick Lansbergen, David Smith

Production Managers: Liz Koenig, Christie Lagrotta, Stacie Ritchie, Sarah Boychuk, Jessica O'Donnell

Circulation Manager: Louise Kaddour

Photo Editors: Heather Muir, Laura Rouse, Kaitlyn

Heard, Lacie Groffen, Blair Pollock, Jamie Reansbury, Mandi Cartwright, Kevin O'Brien

Faculty Supervisor and Adviser: Christina Jonas

Spoke's address is 299 Doon Valley Dr., Room 1C29,

Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4M4.

Phone: 519-748-5220, ext. 3691, 3692, 3693, 3694

Fax: 519-748-3534

E-mail: spoke@conestogac.on.ca

Website: www.conestogac.on.ca/spoke

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CONESTOGA
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Lets make a difference together

When good ghouls go partying

By JAMIE REANSBURY

Witches and pirates and Beastie Boys, oh my!

On Oct. 30, the Conestoga College Sanctuary was transformed from a comfortable hangout to a dungeon of frightful delight for Conestoga Student Inc.'s Halloween Bash. Students and guests appeared in an assortment of interesting and clever costumes.

Some party-goers, such as some of the CSI staff, appeared as the outstanding members of the Justice League, while others came as dazzling heroes. The idea for the CSI Justice League came from the directors of awareness, Melissa Canning and Chris Carson.

"It's kind of a unity thing," said Josalyn Radcliffe, a CSI member and a second-year respiratory nursing student.

Radcliffe, who appeared as the Green Arrow, was joined by several other CSI members. Sarah Carmichael was dressed as Black Canary, Jenny Watson as Hawkgirl, Christopher Carson as Superman/Clark Kent, and Sheena Sonser as Wonder Woman.

Other heroes who made guest appearances at the dance included young Indiana Jones, the talkative Ron Burgundy and the primitive yet laughable Fred Flintstone. "You can never have too many superheroes," said Michael Cook, an event security guard from Barker-Collins.

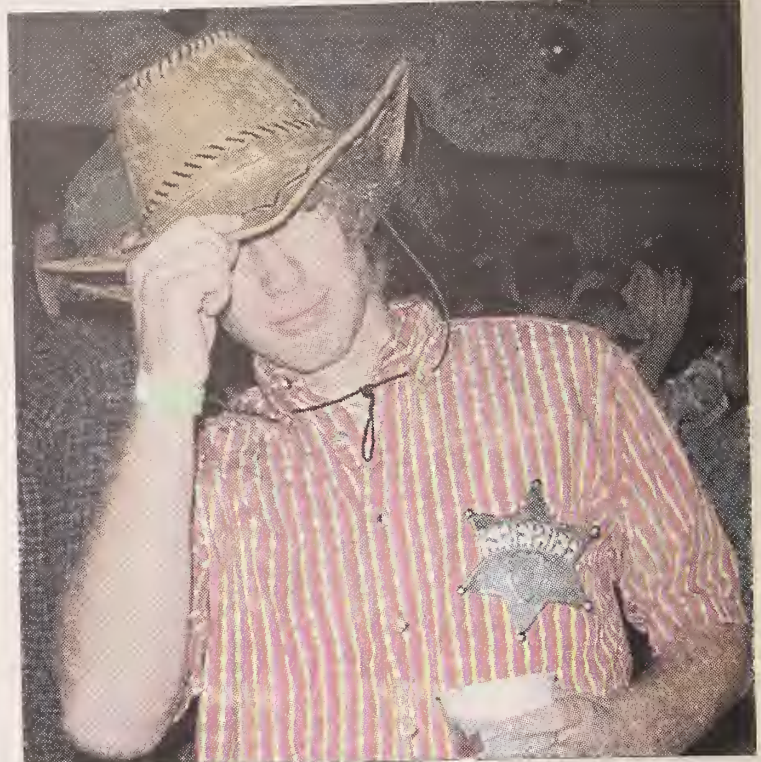
A vast majority of costumes, however, focused on the flamboyant and dastardly villains that everybody loves to hate. Some of the most unforgettable scoundrels who stole away to the bash included the

infamous Captain Jack Sparrow, the immortal cur Jesse James, blood-covered zombies and the Clown Prince of Crime himself, The Joker.

"He's a frightening character, but at the same time he's cool," said Andrei Barbarosa, a second-year civil engineering student, who dressed up as the Batman character.

Halfway through the bash the CSI took a quick vote on who had the best costume. The winner was Martin Schroder, a third-year mechanical engineering student, who dressed up as Joe Dirt. Schroder received \$100.

According to CSI president Sheena Sonser, there were about 350 tickets sold in advance for the Halloween Bash. The CSI is donating all the money raised by ticket sales to the United Way.



Chris Cullen, a second-year broadcast television student, had a great time at the Halloween Bash on Oct. 30.

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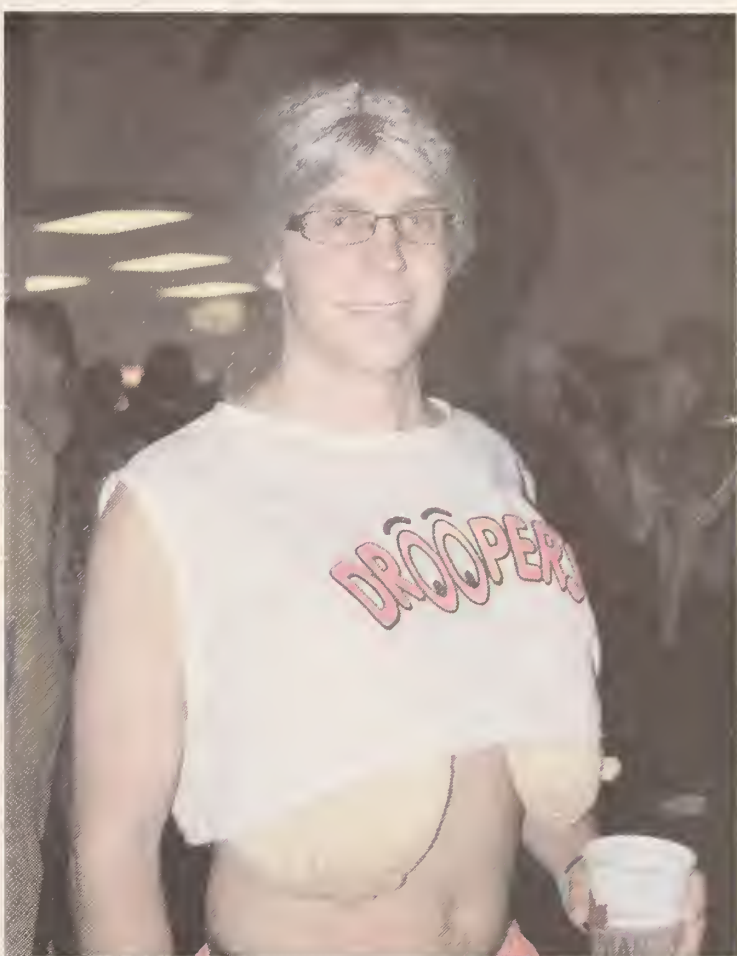


The rum-loving swashbuckler Jack Sparrow (Matt Babol, a first-year robotics and automation student) sauntered into the Halloween Bash.



Martin Schroder, a third-year mechanical engineering student, won the costume contest as everybody's favourite idiot, Joe Dirt.

PHOTOS BY JAMIE REANSBURY



Jordon Murray, a second-year electrical engineering student, put Hooter's girls to shame with his giant grannie droopers.



Jessica Freeman (left), a first-year office administration-general student, and Amber Hadley, a first-year office administration student, used their artistic natures to create ghastly costumes.

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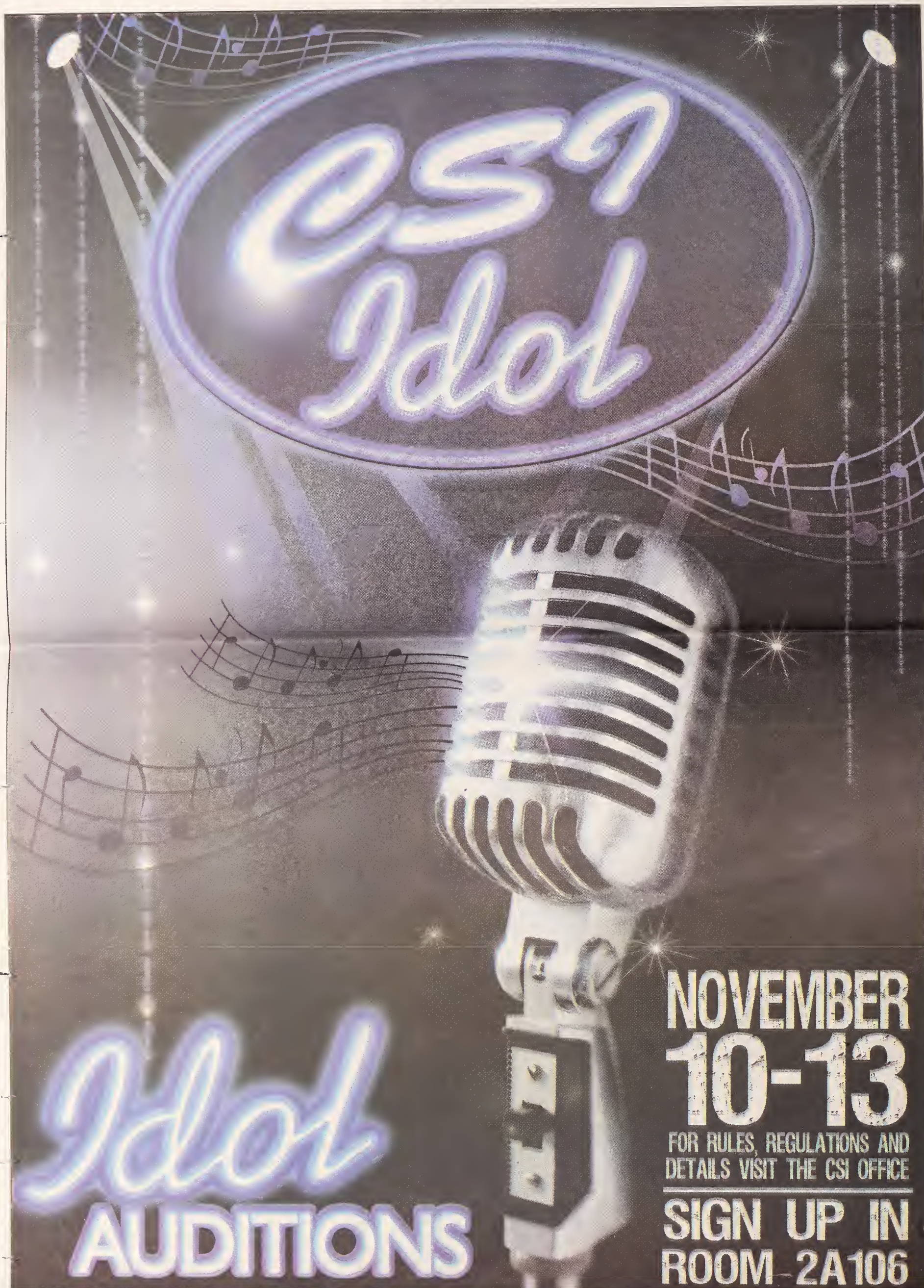
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Idol**

**Idol
AUDITIONS**

**NOVEMBER
10-13**

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**SIGN UP IN
ROOM 2A106**

Coats for Kids' countdown continues

By LACIE GROFFEN

One coat, two coat, three coat, four. Five coats, six coat, seven coats more! The countdown is on as West 49 continues their sixth annual Coats for Kids campaign that launched on Oct. 14.

Over the past three years West 49 has helped collect over 19,000 coats for numerous communities. Their goal this year is 10,000.

Every store accepts clean and insulated jackets for men, women and children. They are donated by customers as well as the general public and then stored in a donation barrel that is displayed behind the counter in each outlet.

The coats are donated to youth shelters and charities

across Canada, including Big Brother, Big Sister, Children's Aid Society, Salvation Army and United Way. Each year employees get together and decide which local organization they would like the coats to go to. Individual stores select one organization to donate to each year.

This year the sales associates at West 49 in Fairview Park Mall in Kitchener decided once again to donate to the local chapter of Family and Children Services. To date, the store has collected almost 70 jackets. If they get 100 coats donated, they will get a pizza party. With a little less than two weeks left in the campaign, Laura Snider, 22, of Waterloo, and full-time keyholder at the store, said

"there's still lots of time."

Snider believes the drive is a great way for the store to get involved and stay connected to the community, especially being so close to Christmas. She said all the full-time staff believe in the campaign and want to aid in its success.

All those who bring in a coat receive a \$30 credit towards any new guys, girls or youth winter jacket. They also accommodate those who may not have known about the campaign until after buying a jacket. Customers who purchased a coat between Oct. 14 and Nov. 12 can bring in a coat for donation and the receipt of the jacket they bought and a \$30 refund will be issued to them.



PHOTO BY LACIE GROFFEN

Laura Snider, a full-time keyholder at West 49 in Fairview Park Mall, Kitchener, sits in a full donation barrel showing off the latest donation.

Students carve out donation for United Way

By CHRISTIE LAGROTTA

Pumpkins were on the operating table and under the knife on Oct. 29 to help raise money for the United Way campaign.

Participants had between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to gut their pumpkins and carve their best piece of work during a pumpkin-carving contest held by the student life centre administrative staff.

"

For some students, it was their first time getting involved in campus activities. I truly hope it made the difference for them.

— Ryan Connell

"

The pumpkins and the operating tools were provided to the students who participated in the event.

Ryan Connell, student life programmer, said "for some of these students, it was their first time getting involved in campus activities. I truly hope it made the difference for them."

For Connell, this event proved extremely worthwhile.

Students made a \$5 donation to the United Way to enter the pumpkin-carving contest. An iPod Shuffle, Tim Hortons' gift certificates and donations from the bookstore were among the prizes that were awarded to the winners.

All together the event, along with members of the United Way campaign committee who collected spare change, raised \$183.

Prizes were awarded for best design and most creative pumpkin. Students also had a chance to guess the number of jellybeans in a jar to win a prize.

By SARAH BONGERS

Do you consider yourself a fashion-lover or art enthusiast?

Kitchener-Waterloo Humane Society's upcoming On the Catwalk fashion show and art gala organizers hope to attract fashionistas and art admirers not just to have a fun night out, but also to support their cause.

The fundraising event will feature a one-hour fashion show, displaying the latest holiday and Christmas fashion from local retailers and independent stores. Following the show a live art auction will be held by Edissi Fine Arts. There will also be appetizers and door prizes available.

"Conestoga students should come because it's going to be a lot of fun. They are going to see a lot of great fashion and ... artwork," said Brenden Sherratt, manager of Edissi Fine Arts and a graduate of Conestoga College's business administration management studies program two years ago. "You gotta spruce up that dorm with something, so if you (have) an extra few dollars you can get a quality piece of artwork to decorate your room."

This is KWHS's third year running On the Catwalk. Kathy Innocente, fundraising and community relations manager at KWHS, said a fashion show was decided as a fundraising event because it was "out of the box" since they always do animal-related events for pet owners.

"We wanted to pull in different kinds of people than we normally deal with," said Innocente. The show is for career people who don't have time for pets but are interested in fashion.

The centre also decided to run a fashion show because they were popular, said Innocente. Oktoberfest runs one every year and with the popularity of America's Top

Models and other fashion-related TV shows, fashion shows are becoming all the rage.

The KWHS hopes to make this a signature event, and turn it into a black tie and dinner.

Innocente said the amount of money they raise during the event gets a "little better every year."

In the first year they collected \$25,000 and last year it was almost doubled at \$43,000.

All proceeds go to KWHS to help pay for veterinarian care, spaying and neutering, behaviour training and humane education.

Last year KWHS spent over \$75,000 on vet care for their animals in the centre.

During the first year of On the Catwalk, the Humane Society ran everything themselves from renting the stage and equipment to picking out the clothes. The models they used were all volunteers. For the last two years Gemini Models has been helping out by supplying the models, rentals and organizing the entire fashion part of the show.

Laurie Cadman, Gemini Model's assistant co-ordinator for the event, said KWHS approached Gemini Models two years ago because their first fashion show had generated a lot of interest so KWHS wanted to make it more professional.

To add to the already sophisticated night, this year will be the first year On the Catwalk includes an art gala. Edissi Fine Arts approached KWHS with the idea of holding an art auction.

Edissi Fine Arts has made it their business to help non-profit organizations raise money through their art auctions. Sherratt said they will be auctioning over 100 pieces of artwork at the show. Some of the pieces can fetch up to \$7,000, while the majority will

be around \$200 to \$400, according to Sherratt. The art pieces are bought locally and internationally by Edissi Fine Arts from well-known to unknown artists.

"

Conestoga students should come because it's going to be a lot of fun.
— Brenden Sherratt

"

Innocente said adding the art auction to the show is a

"win-win situation" since Edissi Fine Arts runs the entire art auction part of the show at no cost to KWHS.

Cadman said the people who are likely to attend this event are people who are supportive of Humane Society's cause.

On the Catwalk will be held on Nov. 13 at St. George Banquet Hall at 665 King St. N., Waterloo. Doors are open at 5:30 p.m., and the show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and can be bought online at www.kwhumane.com or at the Kitchener-Waterloo Humane Society centre at 250 Riverbend Dr., Kitchener. For more information call 519-745-5615.

NEW!

FREE Pre-Apprenticeship Programs

Conestoga College is now accepting applications for

Truck Trailer Service Technician

This program will run at the Guelph Campus starting February 2, 2009. In-school, hands-on training for 23 weeks with an 8-week work placement.

Brick & Stone Mason

This new program will run at the Waterloo Campus starting February 2, 2009. In-school, hands-on training for 25 weeks with an 8-week work placement.

Information Sessions for both programs

All sessions start promptly at 5:00 pm

Guelph Campus Information Sessions run:

Mondays, November 10 or November 24 or December 8

Waterloo Campus Information Sessions run:

Thursdays, November 13 or November 20 or December 11

For more details on these new Pre-Apprenticeship Programs, contact Kristen at 519-824-9390, ext. 136 (G) or 519-885-0300, ext. 484 (W). Or you can reach us at kgoetz@conestogac.on.ca

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HOROSCOPE

Week of November 10, 2008



Aries
March 21 -
April 19

You need to push yourself even harder this week — your drive for success is unstoppable! Whatever you may be doing, know that things are going to get better and better if you keep at them.



Libra
September 23 -
October 22

You have to deal with an issue from the past that's not going anywhere, Libra. It may be that you're just dealing with old family issues, but it could be anything from an old employer to an ex.



Taurus
April 20 - May 20

You are extremely enthusiastic about something or someone and should express yourself! This week will require clarity and simplicity from you, both of which you can bring forth easily.



Scorpio
October 23 -
November 21

Your brain is full of great ideas this week and you should be able to come up with all sorts of notions for school, home or work. Use your creativity.



Gemini
May 21 - June 21

Someone close to you is starting to get a bit full of themselves this week and might even start telling you what to do without checking to see if that's OK with you first. Try to be patient with them.



Sagittarius
November 22 -
December 21

Don't hold back this week as you need to make sure that you are expressing yourself as freely and simply as possible. Your original ideas and way of seeing the world should spark interest from others.



Cancer
June 22 - July 22

You'd rather stay in this week or rather just shut your door and keep yourself occupied. It's one of those weeks when your mind is flowing with ideas.



Capricorn
December 22 -
January 19

You're a planner at heart and this week will demonstrate just why that works so well for you. Everything seems to fall right into place without you having to do much to make it work.



Leo
July 23 - August
22

You're feeling a little bit greedy this week but it's not at anyone else's expense. You may find that it's easier than ever to get your way without causing anyone any excess stress.



Aquarius
January 20 -
February 18

You've got to maintain a strong sense of discipline if you want to get anything at all done this week. If you are just goofing off, then don't worry too much about it. Keep yourself on a leash.



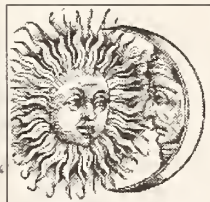
Virgo
August 23 -
September 22

You find your heart racing this week, seemingly for no good reason but it could be romance. You will find the most surprising people attractive this week and you might not have any good reason not to go after one of them.

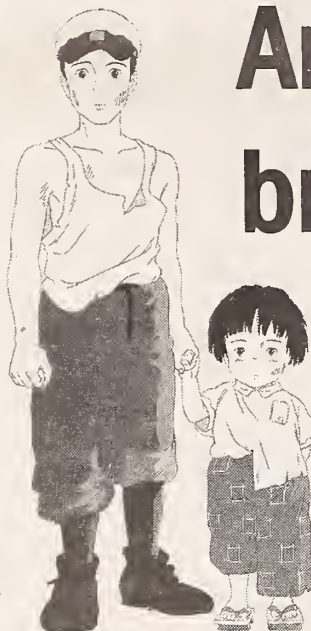


Pisces
February 19 -
March 20

The decisions you make this week are going to affect more people than you realize. This, however, doesn't mean that you should make different choices than you were planning to make.



Louise Kaddour is a second-year journalism student holding fate in the palm of her hand.



By NEIL McDONALD

It's a success story straight out of the movies.

What began as a club for anime fans at the University of Waterloo has evolved to become the only public festival in the world dedicated to feature-length animation.

"At the very beginning, a little bit of spark was there," said Joseph Chen, creator and curator of the Waterloo Festival of Animated Cinema, "but we lit a bonfire."

The festival will begin its eighth year in impressive fashion on Nov. 13 with a screening of the oldest surviving animated film in the world.

The 1926 German silent feature *The Adventures of Prince Achmed*, recently restored from nitrate fragments by the British Film Institute, will be accompanied by a new live score performed by Seattle duo Miles and Karina.

Animation festival brings rare films to the big screen

INTERNET GRAPHIC

Anime classic *Grave of the Fireflies* will receive a special screening in Kitchener on Nov. 14 before moving on to the Smithsonian museum.

"This is such an integral part of the history of cinema," said Chen over coffee at an uptown Waterloo bar. "To be able to do this film the way it would have been seen in 1926 is really joyful and a really rare experience that I personally am very much looking forward to."

Another festival highlight will be a special screening of the anime classic *Grave of the Fireflies*, a film Chen said was "damn hard" to get.

The film, rarely screened in theatres, will be shown on Nov. 14 using the studio's original 35 mm master print, and will be followed by a panel discussion featuring three of the world's top anime scholars. This is the only Canadian stop for the presentation, Chen said, before it moves on to the Smithsonian museum in Washington, D.C.

Many of the 15 films being shown at the four-day festival will be receiving their North American premiere. All will be screened at Kitchener's Gig Theatre, giving fans the rare treat of being able to see animated features from around

FESTIVAL PRICES

Single admission tickets:
\$12 adults, \$8 children

Limited pass:
\$45 adults, \$30 children

Full festival pass:
\$90 adults, \$60 children

www.wfac.ca

the world up on the big screen. Chen said audience reaction is, well, animated.

"They get blown away. A lot of them don't really know what to expect. But when you take animation and put it on the big screen," he said, "it's just viscerally different. Everybody who comes to the festival feels a difference right away, and they can't stop talking about it."

The festival is run entirely by volunteers and though this means long days for Chen ("I stopped counting," he said, when asked how many hours he's put in so far), he wouldn't have it any other way.

"We want to be able to pursue the art and curation of a film without having to answer to anybody," he said. "We have screened a few controversial films before and we want that to be able to continue."

Chen expects up to 5,000 animation fans to attend this year, as the festival's international reputation continues to grow. Given the festival's ongoing success, it seems no one will be yelling "cut" any time soon.

"Every year, we just stretch it out a little bit further. We are the only film festival of this kind in the world," he said, "and we've made our mark."



INTERNET PHOTO

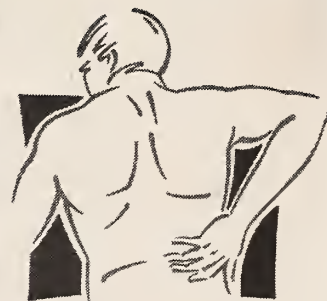
The Adventures of Prince Achmed, the oldest surviving animated film in the world, will be screened at the eighth annual Waterloo Festival of Animated Cinema, Nov. 13.

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Runners go for the gold in Kingston

By ADAM RUSSELL

One hundred miles, weekly, for three months.

That's been the training schedule for Conestoga College's Dave Sharratt, winner of the men's provincial eight-kilometre individual race, as he prepared for this year's national tournament.

Sharratt, 26, won the provincial cross-country champi-

onship at the Ancaster Community Centre Oct. 25, finishing the eight-kilometre race in 28:19, narrowly edging out Cambrian College's Josh Bujold.

Even though this is only the third year Conestoga has had a cross-country squad, the college also took the men's team gold, finishing the contest with the lowest combined time.

The stage was set for Sharratt and his teammates to compete in this year's national cross-country championship which was held Nov. 7-8 at St. Lawrence College in Kingston. Results were unavailable as of press time.

Although this is Sharratt's second year in a row winning the provincial championship, he was not taking the national competition lightly, committing some of his time to researching his opponents.

"I know all the provincial champions now," he said. "They're really fast, they have been posting some fast times all year. I am going to be in tough against them."

Sharratt's strategy for the national tournament was to "sit back" and watch his opponents until the final kilometre.

"It's going to be a fast pace. These guys like to take it out hard," he said. "If I can stay with them until the last kilometre I will try to make a move."

The cross-country team's coach, Ken Yandeau, is encouraged by what he has seen and attributed the success to the strength of the team.

"Having that depth is very important," he said, "in case one of your runners has a bad day."

Although he's optimistic about the national because of what his team has accomplished thus far, Yandeau knows they will be in tough.

"At the nationals the competition is a lot stiffer," he said. "The team from Lethbridge has a couple of Kenyans that finished first and second (at the Alberta championship) and they average 24 minutes per 8-k (kilometre)."

"What's going to be important is our entire team effort," he said.

Yandeau, a management studies professor at Conestoga, has been involved with the cross-country program since its inception in 2006. He has also participated in the famed Boston Marathon and runs almost daily.

Sharratt, who has been training with the University of Waterloo cross-country team, didn't begin competitively running until the age of 21. He became interested after his parents and sister got involved with cross-country.

Sharratt is currently in the second-year of the mechanical technician – general machinist co-op program at Conestoga College.



INTERNET PHOTO

Conestoga College's Dave Sharratt won the provincial men's eight-kilometre individual race, the second year in a row.

TEA FOR TWO WITH FAMILY TOO



PHOTO BY SARAH BONGERS

Jessica Herbert from Conestoga's bookstore and her mother, Gail Herbert from human resources, enjoy their tea and cake at the Tea for Three on Oct. 30. The event was held to raise money for the United Way.



PHOTO BY ADAM RUSSELL

Drew Jansen, Will Hicks and Erik Vicujnik, members of Conestoga College's cross-country team, train for the National Championship held Nov. 7 and 8 at St. Lawrence College in Kingston.

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